

REMARKS

Claim 6 has been objected to for an informality. To overcome the rejection, Applicants have amended the questioned portion of claim 6, in response to the Examiner's objection thereof, to read "outlet tube has," and as such the Applicants respectfully request that the objection of claim 6 be withdrawn.

It must be remembered that anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires the presence in a single prior art reference a disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim. *Connell v. Sears Roebuck & Co.*, 722 F.2d 1542, 1548, 220 U.S.P.Q. 193, 198 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Thus, for an anticipation rejection to stand, all limitations of the claim must be found in the reference or be fully met by it.

Claims 1-9 have been rejected under §102(b) as being anticipated by Sebok et al. (US 6,104,483), hereinafter Sebok. After careful consideration, the Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite that the shell is formed from two separate portions, each having bonding channels disposed on their inner surfaces, thus allowing the first and second portions to be joined together. The flow cell taught in Sebok is not comprised of a shell formed from two separate portions. Rather, the shell (housing) of Sebok is formed during the molding process as a single, unified piece, without any separate individual portions (see Col. 4, lines 30 through Col. 5, line 13). In addition, Sebok does not teach or suggest the use of bonding channels to carry adhesive, as does Applicants' claim 1. Thus, because Sebok does not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 1, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1, and claims 2-8 depending therefrom be withdrawn. In addition, the Applicants request that new claim 10, which depends from claim 1 and which sets forth at least one flow aperture receives the bonding material which is directed into one of the bonding channels, also be granted allowance.

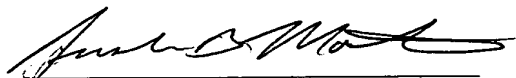
Claim 9 has been amended to further recite that the flow cell contains a first portion and a second portion that mate with one another to capture the inlet tube, the outlet tube, and the view assembly there between. As discussed above, Sebok does not teach a flow cell that is comprised from two separate portions, instead it is formed as a single, unified piece. Moreover, new claims 11-14 that depend from independent claim 9 have also been added. With regard to claim 11, it recites that the first portion includes at least one rail set, while claim 12 recites that the second portion includes at least one ridge set configured to receive the rail set of the first portion. Claim 13 recites that at least one of

the first or second portions contains at least one aperture configured to receive bonding material. And claim 14 recites that the portion containing the aperture also includes at least one bonding channel adapted to receive bonding material from the aperture. Thus, because Sebok does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 9, and new claims 11-14 depending therefrom, the Applicants respectfully request that allowance be granted thereto.

In view of the foregoing amendments and arguments presented herein, the Applicants believes that they have properly set forth the invention and accordingly, respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objections and rejections provided in the last Office Action. A formal Notice of Allowance of claims 1-14 is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner care to discuss any of the foregoing in greater detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 12-2140. In the event Deposit Account No. 12-2140 has insufficient funds, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to withdraw the needed funds from Deposit Account No. 18-0987. If a withdrawal is required from Deposit Account No. 18-0987, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests that the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks cite Attorney Docket Number **LSG.P0053** for billing purposes.

Respectfully submitted,



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